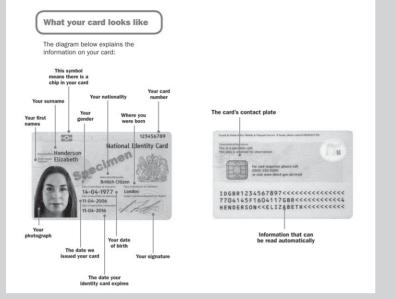
UK unveils national ID card design



The UK ID card's image has been officially unveiled by the Home Secretary Alan Johnson in Manchester and London.

The ID card, which can also be used as a travel document in Europe, was revealed by Johnson at St Pancras International Station in London and to residents of Greater Manchester at an event in the city centre.

The ID card image shows the information contained on the face of the card, including photograph, name, date of birth and signature, as well as the card's unique design. It will hold similar information to that currently contained in the UK passport as well as a photograph and fingerprints on a secure electronic chip.

Johnson said: "The introduction of ID cards today reaches another milestone, enabling the people of Manchester to prove and protect their identity in a quick, simple and secure way.

"Given the growing problem of identity fraud and the inconvenience of having to carry passports, coupled with gas bills or six months worth of bank statements to prove identity, I believe the ID card will be welcomed as an important addition to the many plastic cards that most people already carry.

... Continued from front page

retain the plans for fingerprints on passports if elected to government. Meanwhile, in April this year, IPS said that even if fingerprint passports are cancelled, NBIS would still be used by the UK Border Agency.

Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesperson Chris Huhne said that passports' biometric data should be stored only within documents, and not on a central database. "The fact that it can be used as a passport when travelling in Europe will be an added advantage."

Over the years the reason for issuing the documents has shifted. The government is selling the idea to the public as a good proof of age tool.

This approach has received the backing of the National Federation of Retailers and Newsagents, whose spokesperson said: "Underage sales are a problem across the UK and we are always looking for new ways for the public, especially those under the age of 18 years old, to prove their identity."

In response to citizen concerns about the information stored on the document, the Home Office says an Identity Commissioner will be appointed before ID cards are introduced. This person will oversee operation of the service and report annually on the uses to which ID cards are put and the confidentiality and integrity of information recorded in the National Identity Register. The Home Office adds: "Public Panel meetings in Manchester and London will allow the public to join a conversation about the National Identity Service so their views, reactions and concerns inform the way the service is developed and delivered."

ID CARD

Indian enrolment project a step closer

A massive Indian biometric enrolment project is underway which could lead to the roll out of large numbers of smart ID cards.

IN BRIEF

- · Oberthur Technologies has launched a new Visa payWave contactless payment program with the People's Bank in Tbilisi, Georgia. The bank's 'Voyage Card' combines contact 'Chip and PIN' payment with Visa's payWave contactless payment application. The card also offers MIFARE ticketing for use in public transport. The Voyage Card uses Oberthur Technologies 'Hot Foil Stamping' card design technique. Part of the card's design, (a world map) is stamped with holographic material onto the card's surface. The bank plans to issue cards to students and teachers in Tbilisi and plans to rollout Visa payWave in pharmacies, railway stations, fast food stores, schools and universities. The Voyage Card's MIFARE application also allows the user to purchase personalized e-tickets for use in Tbilisi's public transport system.
- Gemalto has signed a partnership agreement with Universal Music Group (UMG) to jointly promote the Smart Video Card as a new music distribution channel. Smart Video Card is a Gemalto innovation that embeds a DVD-compliant optical disc into the card body of a regular SIM card. The Smart Video Card disc can be preloaded with 120MB of content which can be played in a standard DVD player. The disc pre-mastering can include audio and video encoding, and adding menus and navigation features. Through this partnership Gemalto will be able to exclusively offer UMG content along with its SIM card products, while Universal Music Group International will promote Smart Video Card towards operators that the music group is already working with to deliver online content.
- XIRING has announced the commercial release of the "Xi-Plus 5" secure mobile terminal for healthcare professionals in Germany. The "Xi-Plus 5" is a secure smart card terminal designed for health card applications used by mobile healthcare professionals. Fitted with two slots, one for the professional's card, the other for the patient's card, this solution integrates a high-performance, 32-bit microprocessor. It was designed specifically for the needs of healthcare professionals called out to visit their patients at home. Once the practitioner returns to the office or surgery, he or she can connect the "Xi-Plus 5" to a PC via a USB port, transfer the electronic medical claim forms filled out during the consultations and integrate them in the health insurance system. The terminal has been certified compliant with the specifications of the Gematik and BSI authorities, in particular in terms of security, for which it has reached a Common Criteria certification level EAL3+.

IN BRIEF

- InterSwitch, a provider of secure electronic payment solutions in Nigeria which comprises 25 member banks, has selected Gemalto's Dexxis Instant Issuance solution to accelerate chip migration in Nigeria. As part of the contract, Gemalto supplies the software that allows InterSwitch to offer the instant issuance service to its members. It also enables InterSwitch to provide its member banks with a turnkey solution to perform instant issuance themselves. Chip migration is ramping up in the country and InterSwitch member banks will be replacing 30 million magnetic stripe cards in the next few years.
- Oberthur Technologies and Dyetron, a provider of smart card-based technology solutions for the transportation, communications, government and financial sectors, have announced a partnership to provide EMV cards in Colombia. Colombia's Superintendencia Financiera has imposed a 1 January 2010 deadline for issuers and merchants to migrate to EMV payment because of rising fraud rates from standard magnetic stripe debit cards. After this deadline, the liability over fraudulent transaction rests solely on the party that hasn't upgraded to EMV. Dyetron will utilize Oberthur's endto-end common personalization system at its local personalization centre.
- Advanced Card Systems (ACS) has launched its ACOS6 Multi-application & Purse Card (MAP Card). ACOS6 is specifically designed to address the requirements of multiple applications and multiple e-purses with secure access hierarchy of multiple levels. Compliant with ISO7816-4, the file structures inside ACOS6 can be either transparent, linear fixed, linear variable or cyclic. The unrestricted file structures allow the developers to incorporate various independent applications into one ACOS6 card.
- An optical reader for online banking has been launched by Gemalto. Ezio Optical TAN is an optical authentication reader for online banking specially designed for the German market. The size of a credit card, the Gemalto reader is compliant with the latest German HHD standard and leverages the security of the widely deployed SECCOS banking cards. With Ezio Optical TAN, users present the device in front of their computer screen and optical sensors capture the data they would normally enter from the reader keypad to carry out and sign online transactions. No software needs to be installed to use the device.

The new chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India, Shri Nilekani, said his department will now work on producing Unique Identification Numbers for each of India's citizens. Each unique number will include personal and demographic detail of the residents and will be associated with that person's biometric information. Nilekani is working towards introducing the first set of Unique Identification Numbers within the next 12-18 months, although analysts are reported as saying they feel it will take at least four years for the project to reach critical mass.

The UID Authority was set up in November last year. The proposed system envisages collaboration among several government agencies backed by intensive use of information technology.

India has long felt a need for a system of unique identification of every individual for a variety of purposes such as better targeting of government's development schemes, regulatory purposes (including taxation and licensing), security purposes, banking and financial sector activities, etc. In the absence of such a nationwide system, each sector of the economy or department/ agency of the government adopts its own system of identification such as PAN card, ration card, Electoral Photo Identity Card, credit cards, and so on.

Such specific purpose identities were often found to have inherent limitations in accuracy and currency levels on account of low frequency of usage. Moreover, the multiplicity of such systems renders it impossible to correlate information across sectors and even across institutions within the same sector for providing better services to people. Similarly, different agencies of government are unable to correlate their data relating to any particular individual.

The Unique Identity Project seeks to assign a unique identity (UID) number to each individual in the country that would remain a permanent identifier right from birth to death of the individual. From the point of view of any person in the country, the UID offers many benefits. First and foremost, it would obviate the need for a person to produce multiple documentary proofs of his identity for availing of any government service, or private services like opening of a bank account. According to the Government this would end needless harassment that people face for availing of basic government services like issuance of passports, driving licences, Electoral Identity Cards, etc.

Backed by intensive use of technology, such as biometrics, the project would greatly facilitate easy verification of a person's identity and enable a single communication to trigger address changes in all relevant agencies records. It would also serve as the basis for many e-governance services incorporating online verification of a person's identity. The scheme envisages that at the inception, the UID number will be assigned to all voters by building on current electoral roll data and progressively adding other persons including persons below 18 years of age who are not a part of the voters list in the country. Photographs and biometric data will be added progressively to make the identification foolproof.

It is expected that usage of UID will be progressively extended to various government programmes and regulatory agencies, as well as private sector agencies in the banking, financial services, mobile telephony and other such areas. Over a period of time, the UID is expected to become the single universal identification mechanism across all institutions of the government and the private sector in the country, the government claims.

STATISTICS

Smart Payment Association announces survey results

The Smart Payment Association (SPA), which brings together manufacturers of payment smart cards, has completed its 2008 internal market monitoring activity, undertaken in order to get a better understanding of the current status of the payment smart card market and its key trends.

According to the association the key findings are:

- 580 million payment smart cards were delivered by its members. This figure corresponds to a 39% year-on-year growth (2008 vs. 2007), showing the ongoing momentum of EMV deployment;
- Over 25% growth in all regions with the fastest growth seen in North America, where shipments have more than doubled, CISEEMEA (CIS countries, Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa) with +65% and South Asia with +49%.
- Open-platform is gaining ground and now represents 15% of all shipments, a 72% increase compared to last year. This can be explained by the development of multi-applicative EMV cards. The 70% year-on-year growth in large memory product shipments and the large increase in open-platform dual interface card shipments confirm this trend.
- Both dual interface and pure contactless cards confirm SPA's expectations, out-

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